

Message Text

SECRET

PAGE 01 NICOSI 01093 250742Z
ACTION SS-25

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 SSO-00 /026 W
-----250743Z 104726 /17
O 221645Z APR 77
FM AMEMBASSY NICOSIA
TO SECSTATE WASHDC IMMEDIATE 5726

S E C R E T NICOSIA 1093

STADIS////////////////////////////////////

EXDIS

E.O. 11652: GDS
TAGS: PFOR, CY
SUBJECT: POSSIBLE MEDICAL TREATMENT FOR MAKARIOS

REF: STATE 087351

1. WE ARE INCLINED TO THINK NICOLAIDES WAS ACTING ON GUIDANCE
FROM NICOSIA.

2. FOLLOWING RECEIPT OF REFTEL, AMBASSADOR ASKED FONMIN
CHRISTOPHIDES WHETHER ARCHBISHOP'S CONDITION WAS SUCH AS
TO INDICATE DESIRABILITY OF FURTHER MEDICAL CONSULATION OUTSIDE
CYPRUS. AMBASSADOR NOTED THAT MESSAGES FROM PRESIDENT CARTER,
SECRETARY VANCE AND MR. CLIFFORD FOLLOWING ARCHBISHOP'S HEART
ATTACK INDICATED HIGHEST LEVEL USG CONCERN FOR ARCHBISHOP'S
WELL-BEING. AMBASSADOR EXPRESSED NONCOMMITTAL, PERSONAL VIEW
THAT USG MIGHT BE ABLE TO ASSIST IN ARRANGEMENTS IF ARCHBISHOP'S
PHYSICAL CONCERNS LED HIM TO FEEL HE WISHED SUCH TREATMENT.
CHRISTOPHIDES REPLIED THAT HE WAS NOT SURE ABOUT ARCHBISHOP'S
"PHYSICAL CONCERNS" BUT QUITE SURE OF HIS "POLITICAL CONCERNS."

3. IN A CONVERSATION ON ANOTHER SUBJECT APR 21, CHRISTOPHIDES
SAID HE HAD MENTIONED AMBASSADOR'S INQUIRY TO MAKARIOS. ARCH-
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BISHOP, SAID CHRISTOPHIDES, WOULD WELCOME THE OPPORTUNITY FOR
MEDICAL CONSULTATION IF THIS COULD BE COMBINED WITH A MEETING
AT THE HIGHEST LEVEL. IF HE WERE TO VISIT THE UNITED STATES,
THE BEST TIME FOR HIM WOULD BE JUST AFTER COMMONWEALTH MEETING
IN LONDON SCHEDULED FOR JUNE 8-17.

4. IN ANSWER TO DEPT'S QUESTIONS PARA THREE REFTEL: (A) THE

POLITICAL ASPECT ENTIRELY ASIDE, WE DO STRONGLY BELIEVE MAKARIOS' CONDITION IS SUCH THAT MORE SOPHISTICATED TREATMENT IN US WOULD BE BENEFICIAL. THE BULK OF EVIDENCE INDICATES THAT THE ARCHBISHOP'S ATTACK WAS MORE SERIOUS THAN ACKNOWLEDGED AND THAT HE IS PREOCCUPIED ABOUT THE MEDICAL OUTLOOK.

(?) THE ANSWER IS CLEARLY THAT MAKARIOS WOULD ACCEPT AN INVITATION IF THIS WOULD CARRY WITH IT AN OPPORTUNITY TO MEET PRESIDENT CARTER. WE THINK THERE IS MORE TO HIS WISHES ON THIS SCORE THAN SIMPLY TAKING ADVANTAGE. WE KNOW MAKARIOS FELT EMBARRASSED AND REBUFFED ON THE TWO OCCASIONS AFTER 1974 WHEN HE VISITED WASHINGTON AND WAS NOT RECEIVED BY THE AMERICAN PRESIDENT. AGAINST THIS BACKGROUND, WE THINK HE IS JUSTIFIABLY CONCERNED TO MAKE SURE IN ADVANCE THAT IF HE AGAIN GOES TO THE US HE IS NOT AGAIN PUT DOWN. (C) A US INVITATION TO MAKARIOS WOULD BE ENTHUSIASTICALLY RECEIVED BY A LARGE MAJORITY OF GREEK CYPRIOTS. PARENTHETICALLY AND IMPORTANTLY, WE CONSIDER THAT IT WOULD ALSO HELP TIDE US OVER WHAT LOOKS AS IF IT MAY BE A SOMEWHAT FORLORN SPAN IN THE CYPRUS NEGOTIATION. TURKISH CYPRIOTS (WHO ALREADY THINK MAKARIOS' HEART ATTACK WAS A POLITICAL RUSE) WOULD FUME BUT IMPOTENTLY.

5. EMBASSY'S VIEW IS THAT USG SHOULD PROCEED TO INVITE MAKARIOS FOR FULL MEDICAL EVALUATION AT EITHER BETHESDA OR WALTER REED, AND THAT A SHORT INFORMAL MEETING WITH PRESIDENT CARTER WOULD USEFULLY SERVE THE CURRENT US POLICY APPROACH TO CYPRUS.
CRAWFORD

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